

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Urban High Tunnel Initiative

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Urban High Tunnel Initiative		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Proximity to major population centers in Vermont - This question addresses the location of the Urban High Tunnel application to major population centers in the State of Vermont. Refer only to the accompanying map when selecting the point range. Answer yes to either 1, 2, 3, or 4.	
1. A) High Tunnel will be located within one of centers rated 1-4.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. B) High Tunnel will be located within one of the centers rated 5-8.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. C) High Tunnel will be located within one of the centers rated 9-12.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. D) High Tunnel will not be located in one of these 12 population centers.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Proximity to areas of limited income in Vermont - Compare the proposed location of the Urban High Tunnel against the accompanying map; what is the percentage below the Vermont poverty level in the census block where the Urban High Tunnel will be located? Answer yes to either 5, 6, 7, or 8.	
5. A) The Urban High Tunnel will be located within a block designated 0.47%-3.78%.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. B) The Urban High Tunnel will be located within a block designated 3.79%-11.20%.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. C) The Urban High Tunnel will be located within a block designated 11.21%-23.10%.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. D) The Urban High Tunnel will be located within a block designated 23.11%-54.00%.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Proximity to large/major supermarkets in Vermont - Comparing the proposed location of the proposed Urban High Tunnel against the accompanying map. What is the distance from a large grocery store or supermarket? Answer yes to either 9, 10, or 11.	
9. A) The high tunnel will be located within 1/2 mile of a large grocery store or supermarket.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. B) The high tunnel will be located within greater than a 1/2 mile to 1 mile of a large grocery store or supermarket.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. C) The high tunnel will be located within over one mile of a large grocery store or supermarket.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Prioritization of Historically Underserved Producers	
12. Is this application offered by one of the USDA categories of Historically Underserved Producers as defined on form NRCS CPA-1200? (Beginner Farmer, Veteran Farmer, Socially Disadvantaged, and/or Limited Resource Producer?)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will food produced in the Urban High Tunnel be marketed, sold, or donated primarily within the city/or town where the Urban High Tunnel will be located?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

